ONGC has further reported that from the availability point of view (*i.e.* Rig DDKG-1 was made available by end July, 2009) and also compared to Last Purchase Price rates against ICB tenders of ONGC for similar rigs and the rates received against the Limited tender for which price bid was opened on 4.5.2009, the rates of the rig offered by M/s RIL were found to be acceptable.

Cities covered by CNG/PNG

3307. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities covered in the country at present by CNG/PNG;

(b) whether Government proposes to cover 200 cities by 2015;

(c) if so, the time-bound action plan to cover cities in Eastern Zone like Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Patna and Ranchi; and

(d) the likely source of CNG/PNG to cover the cities in that Zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As per information provided by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), 41 Gergraphical Areas are covered by CNG/PNG at present.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The development of CNG infrastructure in different cities in the country is being taken up in a phased manner. In order to promote investment from public as well as private sector for laying trunk natural gas pipelines and city/local natural gas distribution networks throughout the country, the Government of India has enacted 'The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006' and notified the 'Policy for Development of Natural Gas Pipelines and City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks'. Providing of CNG facilities in a particular city/town/area depends *Inter alia* upon proximity to trunk natural gas pipelines, availability of gas, setting up of necessary infrastructure and economic viability.

Government has issued authorization for laying of Kakinada-Basudebpur-Haldia and Jagdishpur-Haldia trunk natural gas pipelines, which would pass through the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand.

(d) The likely sources of natural gas to cover these cities are indigenous discoveries from KG basin and Mahanadi basin and Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) from LNG terminals.

Pipelines to supply KG Basin gas to Gujarat

3308. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether PNGRB has received EoIs for construction of two more gas pipelines to take KG Basin gas to Gujarat; and

(b) if so, how Government proposes to ensure that KG Basin gas reaches other parts of the country too, particularly Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) GSPL has submitted Expression of Interest (EOI) to Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) for natural gas pipeline of length 2277 km, including spur-line of 817 km, initiating from Krishna Godavari basin in Eastern India to Bhilwara (Rajasthan) with connectivity to Godhra (Gujarat). The proposed pipeline envisages gas supply to States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Government has issued authorization for Kakinada-Basudebpur-Howrah, Kakinada-Nellore-Chennai, Chennai-Tuticorin, Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore and Haldia-Jagdishpur trunk natural gas pipelines to transport KG D6 gas to other parts of the country, including in Andhra Pradesh. Further, along with GSPL, GAIL has also submitted EoI to PNGRB for Central India Pipeline (CIPL) of length 1550 km (including spur-lines of 500 km) from Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh) to Vijaipur (Madhya Pradesh).

Increase in sale price of petroleum products

†3309. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the effect of announcement of increase in sale price of petroleum products in July, 2009 on rising prices in the country has been assessed;

(b) if so, the details of the assessment; and

(c) the likely effect of this price rise on transport, prices of fruits and cereals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which deals with inflation related data, has informed that increase in prices of Petrol and Diesel made on 2nd July, 2009 was taken into account while compiling Wholesale Price Index for the week ending 4th July, 2009. The Wholesale Price Index and rate of inflation for the petroleum products for June and July 2009 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Prices of cereals, fruits and transport equipments and parts (excluding transport services that are not included in Wholesale Price Index) have increased by an annual rate of inflation of 11.02%, 2.55% and 0.74% respectively as on 11th July, 2009. The weight of these items in the Wholesale Price Index is 4.41%, 1.46% and 4.2% respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.